



The following individuals are proudly serving the United States of America in the Armed Forces. The Chandler, Brownsboro, Moore Station, Murchison and Lake Palestine communities are proud of you! For those who are serving overseas, we await your safe return.

If you know of someone in the military, whose primary residence is in the BISD, please let us know so we can recognize them.

- Paul Avritt
- John Bass
- Brian Bailey
- Ryan Barnes
- Heather Beall
- Jeremy Becton
- Casey Berry
- Roger Berry
- Ben Bevans
- Justin Brown
- Donald Burk
- Robert Carian
- Joshua Cason
- Robert (Mikey) Clary
- Aaron Clover
- Casie L. Coplan
- Danny Cowart
- Jeff Crosby
- Andy Dalton
- Philip Daniel
- Johnathan Daniels
- Jessica Delaney
- Doug Dickerson
- Mike Dunklin
- Brandon Edwards
- Joshua Fowler
- Gregory Geske
- Michael Gideon
- Greg Giger
- Donnie Goines
- Nicholas Gould
- Josh Grant
- Joseph Paden Guerra
- Edmond Hargrave
- Jayandra Hare
- John (Duce) Harber III
- James Michael Hendrix
- Cedric Herring
- Daniel Herron
- Detroit Hightower
- Nathan D. Huff
- Aaron Colby 'AC' Humphries
- John Charles Hunter
- Don Inbody
- Matt Irwin
- Michael Isbell, Jr.
- Ryan Steven Jackson
- Joshua Johnson
- Scott Joiner
- Eric Jones
- Bobby Jordan
- Daniel Kidd
- Jesse Kidd
- Lucas Killmeyer
- David Klaus
- Richard Lafayette
- Sam Laymance
- Robert Leed
- Oran Lewis
- Christy Loper
- Sean Lynch
- Raul Macias
- Dusty Mayer
- Jerry Mayse
- Andrew McIntosh
- Tim McMurtray
- Jason Meador
- Chris Munch
- Beau Nation
- Anthony Neeland
- Adam Newell
- Sarah Oliver
- Patrick Ormiston
- Douglas Owen
- Robert Payne
- Jordan L. Parker
- Chad Peyton
- Zach Peyton
- Joseph Pearson
- Joshua Phillips
- Jordan Phillips
- Dusty Pool
- Coy Powell
- Jamie Rainwater
- Nicholas Robran
- Ashley Rogers
- Matthew Seda
- Angus Smith
- Cory Smith
- Luke Smith
- Michael Spencer
- Jared Staggs
- Christopher Stanton
- Emitt Swafford
- Whitney E. Sykes
- Joe Taylor
- Timothy Taylor
- Jacob Thomas
- Drew Thompson
- Deanna Thornton
- Jim Tippen, Jr.
- Jerry Tucker
- Chad Vickers
- Clay Wade
- Tim Wagner
- Christopher Wagoner
- Joe Wangler
- James Weaver
- Jacob Welch
- Shawn Werchan
- Marc Westbrooks
- Josh Wheeler
- Jamie Willard
- Lelia Williams
- Timothy Williams
- Teresa Wilson

To add a name to this list, or have a name taken off please call or email: The Statesman - 903-852-7641 statesman@embarqmail.com

Lewis' celebrate 70 years

J.D. and Lois Lewis will celebrate 70 years of marriage, January 12, 2008, 2:00 pm 'til 8:00 pm. They invite all friends and relatives to join them in their "new" home, where they began their life together, at 8841 CR 3613, Murchison, Texas.

The couple married January 9, 1938. They are members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Black Jack since 1939 where they helped build a new church in the '50s, then a fellowship hall in the '60s.

J.D. served as Sunday School Superintendent and Deacon many years. Lois served as Sunday School Teacher and Pianist for years, also worked with the choir, youth group and Bible School many years.

They have been active in Farm Bureau. J.D. was named Young Farmer of the Year - 1949. He organized Black Jack Community 4-H Club in



J.D. and Lois Lewis

which he was very involved for over 20 years. He helped organize the Henderson County Livestock Show, serving as President three years. He also organized Athens Riding Club in 1960 where he served as President, Director, and Secretary. He also was involved in many other agricul-

tural projects where he received awards.

J.D. and Lois look forward to seeing everyone to help them celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary on January 12, 2008. No presents, please, just lots of memory sharing and memory making!

Search for Miss Henderson County 2008 underway

If you are single, have never been married or given birth, and between the ages of 19 and 29, applications are now being accepted for the title of 2008 "Miss Henderson County International." Miss Henderson County will represent her county at the Miss Texas Pageant to be held at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in San Antonio, Texas, April 11-13, 2008. The young woman selected as "Miss Henderson County Interna-

tional" will become an ambassador from the Henderson County area and receive an official title and sash.

The young lady crowned Miss Texas will receive a prize package valued at over \$11,000 and the opportunity to represent Texas at the 2008 Miss International Pageant in Chicago. The American Heart Association and The United Way are the official charities of the Miss Texas Pageant.

The current reigning 2007 Miss Texas is Monika Stewart of Houston, Texas. As Miss Texas, Monika serves as a spokesperson for the Boys & Girls Club of America. Monika's goal as Miss Texas is to promote the importance of mentoring. Monika aspires to be a role model for all young people: encouraging

them to set high goals. She travels the State attending Boys & Girls Club functions, serves as a keynote speaker, and continues to mentor children one-on-one.

Miss contestants will compete in Personal Interview, Fitness Wear, Fun Fashion Wear and Evening Gown. (There is no talent or swimsuit competition and no experience necessary!)

Young ladies living in Henderson County interested in applying should write for a bio. form: Miss Texas International Pageant, 14427 Brookhollow, Suite 197, San Antonio, TX 78232, or call, email or visit our website for more information: 210.403.0589, Kristin@TexasInternationalPageants.com misstexasinternational.com



Join Us For A New Year Revival



with
Rope &
Candice Myers

Sunday
January 13
&
Monday
January 14
6:00 PM

Rope Myers, World Champion Rodeo Steer Wrestler will be giving his testimony and his wife Candice Myers will be blessing us with her musical gifts as well on two separate evenings.

Rope Myers in every way has been a success. Born into a rodeo family and winning competitions throughout his life you would think it was easy. But Rope has had to work hard and stay persistent to get where he is today. Rope and Candice travel year round collaborating Candice's Music Ministry with Rope's rodeo schedule and Steer Wrestling Schools as well as performing his duties as Rodeo Ministries at Sky Ranch in Lindale, TX.

"The Lord continues to bless my family and me, I feel so privileged to be able to tell folks about what Jesus has done for us." - Rope

Chandler First United Methodist Church
507 N. Broad St., Chandler ~ (903) 849-6839

Gospel Music

Few things have left as much impact on East Texas history as gospel music. When the first settlers came into East Texas from the Old South in the 1830s, they brought with them the old songs they learned from their parents and grandparents.

In East Texas they passed them along to their children and grandchildren in churches that often became the first community institutions of small, now-forgotten towns. Sacred songs and hymns, as well as mountain tunes and early blues, were freely shared by black and white field hands who brought their fiddles, harmonicas and guitars to make music in the evening shade after a hard day's work.

Now, much of that is changing.

The old gospel songs are quietly fading, the result of new music shaped by some church directors trying to win converts among young people who want their music played with modern themes, brass instruments and strains borrowed from television. There are some places, however, where traditional gospel music is still revered and played.

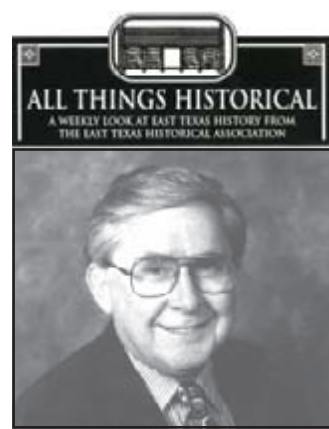
The other night at the First Baptist Church of Moscow, Doris and I spent a delightful evening listening to Bill and Vicki Sky of Nashville, Tennessee. Bedrock gospel shined through in each of their songs.

Bill's roots are in the Arkansas Ozarks, where his father had been a Stamps-Baxter shape-note singing school teacher and mountain fiddler.

His earliest memories, as a child of three, are of climbing onto a rustic platform at Pine Grove Church to help his daddy lead a congregation in gospel music dating back two and three centuries.

"Amazing Grace," that beautiful old gospel standard, was written in 1890 and is still performed with the same vigor and enthusiasm as it was then. For small churches in East Texas, it is an undying anthem.

Bill Sky, who travels with Vicki some 90,000 miles a



By Bob Bowman

year singing and playing in churches and concerts, knows his gospel music history well.

The old standard, "It is Well with My Soul," was reportedly written by a man whose three daughters perished when a ship sank while crossing the Atlantic to England.

And another old standard, "There'll Be No Dying," was written by a mother who lost her son and grieved for months and months until God led her to write a song that miraculously stilled her grief.

One of the songs that the Skys played was, ironically, not a gospel song, but illustrates how songs, including gospel standards, often take on new lives.

An old Finnish folk song, "A Walk in the Finnish Woods," was written in the 1500s. In the 1950s, it was recorded by Patti Page with new words and became an American standard, "On a Morn'g in the Wood."

Moscow's First Baptist Church is doing its best to make sure we never forget the gospel classics by sponsoring free concerts such as the one by Bill and Vicki Sky.

But, in other places, gospel music doesn't have a champion as aggressive as Moscow. All over East Texas, small churches, many of them located in forgotten towns and communities, are losing congregations. And gospel music is changing.

Distributed by the East Texas Historical Association. Bob Bowman is the author of more than 35 books, including "The Forgotten Towns of East Texas."

POLITICAL CALENDAR

Henderson County
Primary Election ~ March 4, 2008

District Attorney

Donna Bennett* (R)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Donna Bennett, Ken Jones, Treas., 908 E. Tyler, Athens, Texas 75751

R.Scott McKee (R)

Pol. Ad Pd. by R. Scott McKee for D.A.

County Tax Assessor - Collector

Milburn Chaney* (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

State Rep. District 4

Victor Morales (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

U.S. Senator

Rick Noriega (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

County Surveyor

Jack L. Ward (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

Sheriff

Bill Casey (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

Constable PCT 1

Daryl Graham* (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

Sammie Cumby (D)

Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party

Constable PCT 4

John Floyd (D)
Pol. Ad Pd. by Democratic Party
* Incumbent

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